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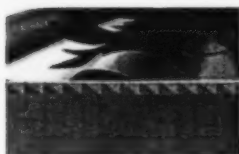
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News Release Communiqué

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MINISTER PRENTICE ANNOUNCES REAPPOINTMENT OF GWICH'IN RENEWABLE RESOURCE BOARD MEMBER

OTTAWA, ONTARIO (January 26, 2007) - The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, today announced the reappointment of Ms. Elizabeth Hansen to the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board. This appointment is effective immediately.

"I am pleased that Ms. Hansen has accepted to continue her work with the Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board for another term" said Minister Prentice. "Her experience, deep understanding and sensitivity to the issues make her ideally suited to carrying on with the significant contributions she has made to the board." said Minister Prentice. "I am confident the people of the Gwich'in Settlement Area will continue to be well served from this board's important work", added Minister Prentice.

Ms. Hansen is a beneficiary of the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement and a retired teacher of 33 years. She has been a board member since May 2001. She also dedicates her time to researching and writing various traditional knowledge projects.

The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board serves as the main instrument of wildlife management and protection in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. It was established under the *Gwich'in Land Claim Settlement Act* (1992). The Board works with communities in the Gwich'in Settlement Area to ensure resources are utilized in a sustainable manner. It helps the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories establish policies and regulations for domestic and commercial wildlife harvesting including hunting, fishing, guiding and outfitting. It also works to establish measures for the protection of wildlife, endangered species, and recommends conservation area designations.

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